

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:-

1. A method of forming a decorative motif on a component of a lighting or indicating apparatus for a motor vehicle, including a step of forming the said component in a predetermined material, wherein the said method
5 includes a step of exposing at least one surface of the said component to laser radiation.
2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of surfaces of the said component are exposed to the said laser radiation.
3. A method according to Claim 1 including a step of completely
10 metallising the said component before the said step of exposing it to laser radiation, the said exposure step being a step of selective removal, by laser radiation, of the metal on at least one surface of the said metallised component.
4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the said predetermined
15 material is a plastics material and the said step of exposing it to laser radiation is such that the colour of the said surface is modified with respect to the colour of the said plastics material.
5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of exposure to laser radiation is performed by means of a laser selected from the group
20 consisting of a YAG laser, a CO₂ laser, or a machining laser.
6. A component for a lighting or indicating apparatus for a motor vehicle obtained by a method according to Claim 1, the said component being of a predetermined material and having at least one surface which is obtained after exposure to laser radiation.
- 25 7. A component obtained by the method of Claim 3, the said component being of plastics material and having a metallised surface and a non-

metallised surface which is obtained after selective removal of the metal by laser radiation.

8. A component according to Claim 7, wherein the said plastics material is coloured.

5 9. A component according to Claim 7, wherein the said plastics material is a thermoplastic material.

10. A component according to Claim 6, having a plurality of surfaces obtained after exposure to laser radiation.